

# Alamo Heights News

CITY OF ALAMO HEIGHTS

6116 BROADWAY

78209

Volume 2, Issue 1

January 2008

## City Employees Thank Businesses

The Second Annual Employee Recognition and Holiday Banquet was made possible by the generous donations from various businesses and individuals.

At the December 14<sup>th</sup> Banquet, employees were treated to a traditional holiday dinner, entertainment and numerous door prizes. Service Awards and Certificates of Appreciation for Care Share Donations to the United Way Campaign were presented to employees.

The City would like to acknowledge and thank all the sponsors for their generous donations which funded the entire cost of the Employee Recognition and Holiday Banquet.

**Gold Sponsor** – AT&T; **Silver Sponsor** - McCreary, Veselka, Bragg & Allen, P.C; **Bronze Sponsors** - First Southwest Company; Linebarger, Goggan, Blair & Sampson, L.L.P; **Door Prize Sponsors** - Alamo Heights Office Products; Applebee's; Cappy's Restaurant; Chase Bank; Computer Solutions; Concord Athletic Club; Frost Bank; La Posada Del Rey; Marilyn Culak Home Interiors; Preferred Staffing; Regal Cinema; San Antonio City Employees Federal Credit Union; Speedy Print; Sunset Ridge Home & Hardware; Thompson, Williams, Biediger, Kastor & Young, L.C; Tony Limon; Water Street Oyster Bar; and Violet Talks.

## New Solid Waste Schedule

The city has scheduled only five solid waste holidays during 2008 to improve service and reduce confusion. The change means citizens will have recycling service every week on Wednesday and that the schedule for collection will not shift for holidays, as was the case during 2007.

The holidays for 2008 include New Year's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving Day, the day after Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. Solid waste services will not be provided on these days and regular service will not be substituted for recycling service during the weeks of these holidays.

Since April 2006, Alamo Heights has collected regular solid waste twice a week and recycling on Wednesday except during weeks when a holiday was scheduled. The shifting of the schedule for holidays meant that recycling service was limited, while the amount of materials that can be recycled has grown.

The change brings Alamo Heights more in line with the practices of other municipalities, particularly those that promote recycling.

The 2008 Solid Waste Schedule is available on the city's website at [www.alamoheightstx.gov/news](http://www.alamoheightstx.gov/news).

## Thanks to the Community for Employee Christmas Dinner

The City of Alamo Heights would like to thank the citizens and business representatives of Alamo Heights who donated money and goods over the past three years to provide meals, fruit, and holiday goodies for the on-duty police, fire, and dispatch personnel on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We especially appreciate Margaret Houston's coordination of this effort.

### Calendar

#### January

21 Holiday - Martin Luther King Jr Day

28 City Council Meeting 5:30 p.m.

#### February

4 Planning and Zoning Meeting 5:30 p.m.

6 Board of Adjustment Meeting 5:30 p.m.

11 City Council Meeting 5:30 p.m.

\*Note: All Board and Commission Meeting times have changed to 5:30 p.m. in order to provide improved customer service to our residents.

**911 for EMERGENCY**

**Fire/EMS (Non Emergency): 824-1281**

**Police (Non-Emergency): 822-3321**

**Police Administration Office: 822-6433**

**Police Investigations: 822-2164**

**CITY HALL**

**Administration: 822-3331**

**Taxes: 882-1502**

**Water: 882-1507**

**Court Clerk: 882-1501**

**Public Works: 826-0516 (includes permits, garbage & trash, brush, recycling, inspections, etc.)**

**Mayor & Aldermen**

**Louis Cooper-MAYOR**

**882-1511**

**lcooper@alamoheightstx.gov**

**Bobby Rosenthal- MAYOR PRO TEM**

**PLACE 2**

**882-1513**

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**Stan McCormick-PLACE 1**

**882-1512**

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**Jill Souter-PLACE 3**

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**Bill Kiel-PLACE 4**

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**Susan Harwell-PLACE 5**

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**City Officials**

**Rebecca Waldman-CITY MANAGER**

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**Shawn Eddy-PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

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**Bill Woodward-INTERIM FIRE CHIEF**

**832-2205**

**bwoodward@alamoheightstx.gov**

**Rick Pruitt-POLICE CHIEF**

**832-2200**

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**Cynthia Barr-DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

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**Marian Ramirez-ASSISTANT TO CITY  
MANAGER/INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
MANAGER**

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**Denise Silva - CITY SECRETARY**

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**dsilva@alamoheightstx.gov**

**Judie Surratt-HUMAN RESOURCE  
MANAGER/DEPUTY CITY SECRETARY**

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## CITY BRIEFS

### City Selects Project Manager for Fire Chief Retiring Improvement Program

The City Council has approved the selection of Freese and Nichols, Inc. to provide project management services to support the capital improvement program and to provide other engineering, environmental, construction, architectural and technological services during the term of the agreement.

Staff and Freese and Nichols, Inc. will work together to finalize the scope of proposed capital projects and develop a project schedule for design and construction of approved projects.

### Alamo Heights Chamber of Commerce Donates to Public Safety Programs

The Alamo Heights Chamber of Commerce has donated \$2,200 to the City of Alamo Heights to provide additional funding for the Citizens Emergency Services Academy and the Police/Fire/EMS Explorer Post. The generous donation assists in making it possible to continue providing valuable lessons in public safety to youth and adult program participants.

### Police/Fire/EMS Explorer Program Looks for Participants

The Alamo Heights Police/Fire/EMS Explorer Post will have a registration meeting on Jan. 22 at 6:30 p.m. in the Alamo Heights City Council Chambers, 6120 Broadway. Part of one of the more unique programs in the U.S. providing instruction about three emergency response services, the Alamo Heights Explorer Post encourages both male and female young adults between the ages of 14 and 21 to join this exciting program. The registration meeting will include a presentation on the Explorer program for all interested persons.

### Holiday Lights Contest Winners

The Alamo Heights Rotary Club (AHRC) sponsored its annual holiday lights decoration contest in Alamo Heights and this year's competition was as good as ever – traditional and creative lighting and settings throughout the city. The 2007 winners are:

1<sup>st</sup> Place- 502 College

2<sup>nd</sup> Place- 320 Corona

3<sup>rd</sup> Place- 635 Corona

Fire Chief Darren Smith is retiring from the Alamo Heights Fire/EMS Department after a career spanning twenty-two (22) years of loyal and dedicated service to the Alamo Heights community. Chief Smith began his career as a Firefighter/EMT-Basic in 1985, was promoted to Lieutenant in 2000 becoming the Public Education/Fire Training Officer and in 2003 promoted to Captain. In November 2005 he was appointed Interim Fire Chief and promoted to Fire Chief in March 2006.

Chief Smith improved the department in the areas of swift water rescue, weapons of mass destruction and haz-mat training, firefighter training programs involving live burns, and equipment purchases such as the City's first Quint (ladder) fire apparatus.

The City of Alamo Heights will miss Chief Smith and wishes him well in his future endeavors. Assistant Fire Chief/EMS Administrator Bill Woodward has been appointed Interim Fire Chief.

### Fire Department Promotion

Congratulations to Matthew Fellows who has been promoted to the rank of Captain. Captain Fellows came to Alamo Heights Fire/EMS Department in December 1989 and was promoted to Lieutenant in 2001.

### Fire/EMS Orders New Truck

The Alamo Heights Fire/EMS Department ordered a new "Quint" fire truck with delivery expected near the end of the year. The purchase is expected to improve the city's International Organization for Standardization (ISO) rating, which may lower fire insurance premiums for property owners.

The new fire truck, to be manufactured by Pierce Fire Equipment in Wisconsin, includes five special features that lead to its name, "Quint": main engine, water tank, fire pump, hose load and large ladder. The extra long 105 foot ladder, 2,000 gallon-per-minute fire pump and numerous cabinets to store firefighting and rescue equipment will help the department better protect citizens and their property.